



Technology News and Information

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SPRING / SUMMER 2011

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Message from Scott

As the school year starts to come to an end, yes even with all the make up snow days, the school year will end, I have started to put together next year's presentations. In the last few months I have been able to broaden the scope of what Internet Safety Concepts teaches. Since the last newsletter I have booked more college presentations. The college years pose different challenges and problems when it comes to the cyber world. It has been a great experience working with these students.

Also, I have developed my elementary school program ahead of schedule and it will be available for 2011-2012 school year.

Finally, a new opportunity was developing a lesson for teacher professional development training. My friends at East Granby High/Middle Schools put me up the challenge. From the positive responses I received from both teachers and administrators, this also will be a program offered for the next school year.

Along with all the presentations, I have also started with book signings/lectures/festivals. This is new territory for me but very exciting. My co-author, Laurie Gifford Adams, and I have had three scheduled appearances in the past and we look forward to doing more.

Hope everyone has a great end of the school year and a safe summer.

Internet Stories

As I was putting the final touches on this newsletter I had to stop and change this section. In today's news there was an arrest of a teacher who sexually assaulted an underage female. The reports stated that the male met his victim in a "social networking chat room" in April of 2010. The suspect then opened a fake Facebook page and continued to communi-

cate with the victim. By January the two began to meet in person.

Cases like this are happening everyday all over this country. Whenever I get a chance I will re-enforce to parents, we **MUST** be aware of who are children are communicating with. If we allow our children to use social networking sites then we **MUST** review their "friends" list and monitor

who are children have allowed into their world. Guys like this suspect know how to groom children and make them feel safe. They should not be talking to our kids.

Review information about strangers with your kids. If you only know someone from the Internet they are a **STRANGER**.

Be Safe!!

Sexting



Sexting. Look it up. This situation that we hear so much about and has been hurting people is still so new to our world the word has not been defined yet. Kids know about it and what it looks like but it is still not even a word.

Sexting is becoming a major problem for our youth and they are still not understanding the short/long term consequences that can happen.

Some studies show 1 out of every 5 kids have sent or received nude/semi nude photos. Survey also shows that teens who send these pictures KNOW the picture will be shared with strangers. NOT GOOD!

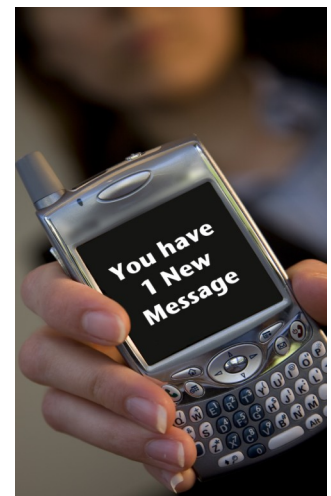
Recent survey taken showed that of the kids who have been involved in sending nude or semi nude photos, 15% of them sent the image to someone they only know from the Internet. That is a complete stranger!

If a picture makes it to the Internet, it is permanent. It is a digital footprint of our child's past and will not go away.

As I discussed in my previous newsletter, when images or information is sent over the phone and if GPS is enabled, we may also be sharing our exact location, not just our image. What is very scary about this fact is that if 15% of kids who are involved in sexting are sending the image

to strangers, they may also be sharing their exact location with that same stranger. Not a safe practice.

We should all use caution as to what pictures we take with mobile devices and who we share them with. If you are taking pictures and sending them, turn your GPS device off prior to taking the picture. This will prevent the GPS element from being added to the image.



Book News



Since the book was released, great things have been happening.

The book is now available in “nook” and “kindle” versions. Great news.

The book has also reached out internationally. I was contacted by a TV show in Ecuador about the book and my presentations (No it was not spam I confirmed the information). Copies have also made their way to Great Britain and Asia.

Laurie and I are working on something special with the book to turn it into a “live” educational tool for schools. Stay Tuned!

I have added a few things to my website to help parents. At my site, www.InternetSafetyConcepts.com, you can now follow me on Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn and Facebook. Check them out. If you link to my Facebook page, www.facebook.com/InternetSafetyConcepts.com, “like” the page. When I reach 100 “likes” I will be raffling off a copy of my book. Liking the page will also allow you to get any news updates I do right to your Facebook account. Check them out.



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If you are interested in booking a presentation, please contact me at InternetSafetyConcepts@cox.net or 860-595-6120. Already booking for the 2012 school year. Thank you